

NOTES & NEWS

Erroneous Records of Freshwater Clams (Sphaeriidae) from California

BY

DWIGHT W. TAYLOR

(Contribution no. 2, Western American Freshwater
Mollusks Program, Institute of Malacology)

U. S. Geological Survey, Washington, D. C.

(Publication authorized by the Director,
U. S. Geological Survey.)

Three species of small freshwater clams of the genus *Pisidium* (Sphaeriidae) that have been recorded from California by Herrington (1962) are dubious members of the fauna. This note presents the relevant evidence.

"Hunt Lake, California," with no more precise data, is the locality assigned to the following species in the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology catalogue and on the labels. Most were supposedly collected by E. G. Berry on September 4, 1931. The label on lot 169705 reads 9-3-1931, but this may be an error. So far as one can tell from examination of adjacent entries in the catalogue no species except Sphaeriidae were recorded from the locality. In the following list museum catalogue numbers precede the names of the species as identified by H. B. Herrington. An asterisk (*) marks species unrepresented from California in the collection save for these lots from "Hunt Lake."

UMMZ 169703 *Pisidium nitidum* JENYNS
 UMMZ 169704 **Sphaerium nitidum* CLESSIN
 UMMZ 169705 *Pisidium nitidum* JENYNS
 UMMZ 169706 **Pisidium obtusale* form *rotundatum*
PRIME

UMMZ 187570 *Pisidium variabile* PRIME
 UMMZ 188222 *Pisidium insigne* GABB
 UMMZ 189774 *Pisidium nitidum* JENYNS
 UMMZ 190162 **Pisidium ferrugineum* PRIME
 UMMZ 190509 *Pisidium casertanum* (POLI)
 UMMZ 192444 **Pisidium subtruncatum* MALM
 UMMZ 195780 **Pisidium lilljeborgi* CLESSIN

E. G. Berry (personal communication) was in southern California on September 4, 1931, and could have collected in the mountains of Riverside or San Diego

counties. He has no precise memory of the collection, no records, and his inquiry to the Department of Zoology, University of Utah, where duplicate specimens might have been preserved, yielded no information. No "Hunt Lake" was found in Riverside or San Diego counties on road maps of the Automobile Club of Southern California, or on topographic maps of the U. S. Geological Survey. The Sphaeriidae of this area are reasonably well known through collections by W. O. Gregg, especially, and include only *Pisidium casertanum* (POLI), *P. compressum* PRIME, and *P. insigne* GABB. Southern outliers of northern species in the higher mountains are certainly possible, as for example the isolated occurrence of *P. obtusale* in the San Bernardino Mountains, San Bernardino County (TAYLOR & HERRINGTON, 1962). Yet to find so many hitherto unrecorded species in this region is exceedingly improbable. A more likely explanation is that the specimens were mislabeled. The citations by HERRINGTON (1962: 40, 44, 49) of *P. ferrugineum*, *P. lilljeborgi*, and *P. subtruncatum* from California are hence almost certainly erroneous.

For aid and comments the author thanks E. G. Berry, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland; H. B. Herrington, Westbrook, Ontario, Canada; and Henry van der Schalie, Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan.

LITERATURE CITED

- HERRINGTON, H. B.
 1962. A revision of the Sphaeriidae of North America (Mollusca: Pelecypoda). Michigan Univ. Mus. Zool. Misc. Publ. 118: 1-74; pls. 1-7.
- TAYLOR, DWIGHT W., & H. B. HERRINGTON
 1962. The fresh water clam *Pisidium tremperi* (HANNIBAL). The Veliger 4 (3): 129-131; pl. 28. (Jan. 1, 1962)

A. M. U.

Pacific Division

The meeting of the Pacific Division in 1964 will be held at Asilomar near Pacific Grove on the beautiful Monterey Peninsula from June 18 through June 21. Details will be announced at a later date. Dr MYRA KEEN of Stanford University will be Chairman; other officers of the organization, elected at the meeting in Santa Barbara this year are: EDWIN C. ALLISON, of San Diego State College, Vice-Chairman; Mrs. LUCILLE ZELLERS, El Cerrito, Secretary; Mrs. MAE DEAN RICHART, San Francisco, Treasurer.